

PUBLIC MEETING
August 29, 2006

Chair Anita Varone called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. Commissioner Tinsley was present. Commissioner Murray was absent. Others attending all or a portion of the meeting included Ron Alles, Kelly Blake, Marni Bentley, Mike Korn, Ruth Swenson, Keith Hatch, and Maria Penna.

Pledge of Allegiance. Everyone recited the pledge.

Consent Items. Ron Alles reported on the consent agenda and recommended approval.

- a. Resolution Declaring County Property Surplus Property Individually Valued Less Than \$2500. (Computer items in IT&S Department) To be donated to the Trinity School.

Commissioner Tinsley moved approval of the consent agenda and authorized the Chair to sign. Commissioner Varone seconded the motion and it carried 2-0.

County Fairgrounds Pond Management Plan. Ron Alles reported the commission heard public comment on July 27 and no further comments were received on the plan.

Commissioner Varone stated both Ruth Swenson and Mike Korn are in the audience and were the drive behind putting this plan together.

Ruth Swenson, 11 Willow, thanked the commission for their foresight and support, time and energy, and money to fund this consensus process. We were all aware a little over a year ago it started off fairly combative with many different interests. The plan reflected what the fairgrounds pond really meant to the citizens of Helena. She also thanked the committee members who gave their time and energy on a regular basis to sit down and go through all the different issues regarding the fairgrounds pond. The document looks great and as the person representing Friends of the Duck Pond we support the document.

Mike Korn said FWP supported adoption of the plan. Should the commission decide to adopt the plan, the citizens committee should be made aware that there is an expectation not just by yourselves but also the citizens of the community. FWP is prepared to contribute to protecting the water quality in that area. He recommended that the commission adopt the plan in its entirety.

Keith Hatch thanked everyone involved in the process.

Commissioner Varone said the meetings started out very contentious. The group understood they were charged to make the pond presentable and usable for a variety of events and the final product shows how hard the folks worked. She proposed that the commission establish the citizens advisory council as a permanent committee that

provides recommendations to the Fair Board.

Mr. Alles said as part of the plan the Fair Board could look at some of the capital improvements that would make the pond better and could be worked through the budget process.

Commissioner Tinsley moved that the county accept and begin implementation of the County Fairgrounds Pond Management Plan and accept Commissioner Varone's recommendation to establish a permanent citizens advisory council and authorized the Chair to sign. Commissioner Varone seconded the motion.

Commissioner Tinsley stated although Commissioner Murray was not here today he expressed his support of the plan.

The motion carried 2-0.

Resolution of Intention to Dissolve the Westside Improvement District No. 1987-3. Marni Bentley reported the Westside Improvement District was formed in 1987 to fund sewage disposal facilities and then pay on-going disposal fees to the city. The district was hooked to city sewer system to help resolve some nitrate problems. The construction loan was paid off many years ago and the disposal fees are being paid through the district. If the commission approves the dissolution, the city would start billing in November the 22 landowners who are connected to the city system. Staff recommended approval of the resolution.

Commissioner Tinsley moved approval based on staff recommendation and authorized the Chair to sign. Commissioner Varone seconded the motion and it carried 2-0.

Public comments on matters not mentioned above. None.

There was no other business and the meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Anita L. Varone, Chair

Michael A. Murray, Vice-Chair

Ed Tinsley, Member

ATTEST:

Paulette DeHart, Clerk of the Board